



# County of Accomack, VA

Fiscal Year 2017 Adopted Budget Communication

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Authored by: Finance Department

# County of Accomack, VA

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## Overview

The Accomack County Board of Supervisors finalized the County’s July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 Annual Fiscal Plan (aka County Budget) on May 18, 2016. The primary purpose of this communication is to highlight significant budget changes approved by the Board including the outcome of various additional funding requests received from departments and organizations both internal and external to County government. This communication is also intended to brief affected parties of any funding related policies adopted by the Board that may affect departments or other external entities.

- County departments
- Constitutional Officers
- External Organizations

Any requested increase in County funding not specifically cited as being approved in this summary should be considered unfunded.

In addition to this Communication, internal departments and offices will receive line-item budgets prior to the start of the fiscal year.

The County’s Adopted Annual Fiscal Plan, the County’s “Official” budget document designed for transparency and communication to the public, will be available prior to July 1.

## Property Tax Rates/Fees

The Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes no increase in the personal property tax rates from the prior year; however it does increase the real estate tax rate by 3 cents increase per \$100 of assessed value, excluding real estate located in the Town of Chincoteague. The budget does not include any increases in user fees. Below are the property tax rates adopted by the Board for calendar year 2016:

### 2016 Real Estate Tax Rates:

Chincoteague .....	\$0.490 per \$100 of assessed valuation
Captains Cove/Greenbackville.....	\$0.635 per \$100 of assessed valuation
All other County areas.....	\$0.610 per \$100 of assessed valuation

### 2016 Personal Property Tax Rates:

Chincoteague .....	\$3.63 per \$100 of assessed valuation
All other County areas.....	\$3.72 per \$100 of assessed valuation

Personal Property Tax Relief % for personal use vehicles:

Valued at \$1,000 or less ..... 100% of the assessed tax

Valued over \$1,000 ..... 46% of tax assessed on first \$20k of value

## Employee Compensation

The adopted budget includes funding for a 3% compensation increase for regularly scheduled County and “state supported” local positions both part-time and full-time effective November 1, 2016. This increase is contingent on receiving state matching funds to offset the cost of increases for “state supported” local positions. State supported local positions include Constitutional Officers and their employees, Social Services Board employees and the General Register.

## Employee Benefits

Employee Health Insurance: On average, employee health insurance premiums will increase by 7.9% for the new plan year beginning June 1. Costs associated with this increase will be shared by both the employee and employer based on the percentage each contributes towards the cost of their monthly insurance premium.

Retiree Health Insurance: No changes were made to the County’s phase out of the retiree health care defined benefit plan, which was completely overhauled during the FY15 budget development process. The sunset provisions remain in the current benefit plan which covers retirees who retired at age 65 or greater with at least 15 years of service. Only those retirees currently enrolled in this benefit program or those who will elect it by January 1, 2017 will be eligible for future plan benefits. Note that this plan was replaced by a defined contribution plan in FY15 which provides retirees with a monthly reimbursement for health care costs of up to \$4 per year of service. To be eligible for the “new” plan, an employee must retire with 15 or more years of VRS service. Other eligibility rules and plan specific terms and conditions can be obtained from the Finance Department.

## Internal Department/Office Funding

### **Airport**

The budget approved an increase of \$26,100 in one-time funds for the local share of rehabilitation of fuel farm tanks (\$8,500), local share of parking lot improvements (\$6,000), local share of mid-field windsock replacement (\$1,900), local share of siding repairs on the Terminal building (\$3,000), replacement of a crew car for visitors (\$4,000), improvement

to gardens around the Terminal (\$1,200), and funding for pilots afterhours access to the Terminal building (\$1,500).

### **Building and Zoning**

Additional capital funds were approved for \$32,100 for the department, consisting of \$11,500 for replacement of GPS units, \$20,000 for replacement of a departmental vehicle, and \$600 for 3 inspector iPads/tablets.

### **Electoral Board**

The Electoral Board's capital budget increased by \$21,502, consisting of \$6,329 for election officials, \$6,500 for printing ballots, \$1,643 for postage, \$1,700 for office supplies, and \$5,330 for vendor coding for election setup due to three elections scheduled.

### **Information Technology**

The budget provides an additional \$180,733 in capital funds and \$14,824 in operating funds. The capital funding includes email system software upgrade (\$13,881), IT infrastructure refresh (\$97,545), information security related subscription and support renewals (\$3,500), and PC and iPad replacement (\$65,807). The operational increases include \$4,824 in critical application support contracts and \$10,000 in information security related subscription and support.

### **Parks and Recreation**

The budget provides \$25,300 in capital funding for a zero-turn mower (\$12,800), copier machine (\$5,500), and large dumpster for the Central Park in Accomac (\$7,000).

### **Planning**

Additional one-time funding in the amount of \$29,000 was approved for GIS for building footprints improved data (\$11,000) and for GIS for LiDar improved data (\$18,000).

### **Public Safety**

The Consolidated EMS Fund's operating budget increased by \$569,145 with \$3,700 for Fire & EMS data collection and reporting and \$3,600 to pay for additional health services costs. The remaining \$561,845 will provide 24 hour coverage at the Painter Volunteer Fire Company by adding 9 full-time firemedic positions to address response time issues at the southern end of the County and to provide additional backfill for response system. \$3,000 in capital funds were also approved for the Consolidated EMS fund for furniture and fixtures for the Fire Inspector position.

## Public Works

Funding for the following initiatives is included in the adopted budget:

Description	Operating Funds	Capital Funds
<b>General Fund:</b>		
Solid Waste roll-off truck replacement	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Greenbackville Harbor renovations	50,000	-
Sheriff's Office emergency standby power generator	-	57,000
Folley Creek boat ramp improvements	-	49,900
Circuit Courthouse building assessment	-	15,000
Total General Fund	\$ 50,000	\$ 271,900
<b>Landfill Fund</b>		
Leachate ponds sludge removal	\$ -	\$ 75,000
Spray field cutter and baler equipment	-	40,000
Northern Landfill scalehouse roof	-	8,000
Leachate Treatment Facility transfer pump and building	-	20,000
Leachate Treatment Facility and gun firing range road improvements	-	55,000
Working cell rain cap installation	-	50,000
Southern Transfer Station baler building repurpose	-	25,000
Northern Landfill compactor	-	600,000
Convenience centers and Transfer station back hoe	-	98,500
Northern Landfill track loader	-	265,000
Northern Landfill wheel loader	-	295,000
Northern Landfill cell 2 closure (Year 1 of 3 totaling \$2,275,000)	-	100,000
Northern Landfill cell 3 construction (Year 2 of project)	-	1,650,000
	\$ -	\$ 3,281,500
<b>Water &amp; Wastewater Fund</b>		
Central Accomack Wastewater - northern spur	\$ -	\$ 425,000

### Risk Management

The budget provides for an additional \$6,795 in operating monies to cover increased insurance premiums.

### Wallops Research Park

Operational increases were adopted for maintenance costs (\$18,000) and dues and subscriptions (\$750).

## Rainy Day/Stabilization Fund

The adopted budget designates \$806,980 of unassigned General Fund balance to the Rainy Day/Stabilization Fund in accordance with the Board's plan to increase it to the level recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) by 2021. This contribution will bring the balance of the fund to just over \$10M or 13.3% of revenue.

## External Organization Funding

### **Accomack County School Division**

Local funding for the School Division is generally dictated by a revenue sharing formula that allocates 53% of General Fund revenue from property taxes, other local taxes and non-categorical aid to public education. The result of this formula for FY17 yielded an additional \$176,387 in local funding for the School Division however a one-time reduction in local funds was also approved in the amount of \$1,525,603 bringing the total FY17 local funds allocation to \$15,421,521. The School Division is expected to utilize one-time state direct aid to public education carryover funds to offset this reduction in local funds.

### **Accomack County Social Services Board**

Local funding for the Social Services Board will remain at \$755,847 in FY17 the same as the current FY16 revised budget. Additional adjustments to this amount will be made once state matching funds for the planned 3% employee compensation increase materializes.

### **Volunteer Fire and Rescue Companies**

The County supports 15 different volunteer fire and rescue companies through operational subsidies. The amount of the subsidy is dependent upon the services provided by each company and compliance with the County/Company funding agreement. The FY17 budget provides the following subsidies:

Company Name	Total
New Church	\$ 110,701
Greenbackville	118,701
Chincoteague	118,701
Atlantic	114,701
Saxis	118,701
Bloxom	118,701
Parksley	118,701
Tasley	110,701
Onancock	118,701
Melfa	118,701
Wachapreague	118,701
Painter	110,701
Onley	118,701
Oak Hall Rescue	110,701
Tangier	118,701
Total	\$ 1,744,515

Actual amounts contributed may vary from the above due to the fact that each subsidy is determined via a funding formula which uses actual property tax collections as one of its variables.

### Other External Organizations

- The Accomack County Health Department received operational funding of \$24,431 to cover the FY15 year-end settlement payout. This together with amount approved pursuant to the Health Department’s support agreement totals \$553,896 for FY17.
- Year 3 of the County’s commitment towards replacing the Eastern Shore Community College academic and administration building was funded at \$222,000 bringing the County’s total 3-year commitment to \$666,000. In addition, operating funding of \$41,028 was approved for the ESCC.

Subsidies for other external organizations provided for in the adopted budget are as follows:



Organization	Adopted Budget FY16	Adopted Budget FY17
Accomack County Dental Program	\$30,971	\$30,971
A-N Planning District Commission	\$65,036	\$65,036
A-N Transportation District Commission	\$18,666	\$18,666
E.S. Area Agency on Aging	\$23,430	\$23,430
E.S. Coalition Against Domestic Violence	\$20,000	\$20,000
E.S. Community Services Board	\$178,286	\$178,286
E.S. of VA Groundwater Committee	\$19,721	\$19,721
E.S. of VA Housing Alliance	\$9,215	\$9,215
E.S. of VA RC&D Council	\$9,999	\$9,999
E.S. Small Business Development Center	\$4,607	\$4,607
E.S. Soil and Water Conservation	\$21,154	\$21,154
E.S. SPCA	\$5,921	\$5,921
E.S. Tourism Commission	\$86,853	\$86,853
Economic Development Authority	\$7,500	\$7,500
Keep the E.S. Beautiful Committee (PDC)	\$5,667	\$5,667
Star Transit	\$176,800	\$176,800

### Audit Requirement for External Organizations

All external organizations receiving County funding which are separate and distinct from the County of Accomack and not included in the scope of the County’s annual external audit are reminded that they must submit annual financial statements to the County Finance Department during the coming fiscal year.

What type of financial statements to furnish, audited or unaudited, is dependent on the amount of funds the organization receives from the County. The policy that outlines these requirements can be downloaded from the County Finance Department’s webpage at <http://co.accomack.va.us/departments/finance/financial-policies>.